Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-16 and 25-36 are pending in the application. Support for the amendments to claim 1 may be found at least in paragraphs [0002] - [0008]. Support for the amendment to claim 2 may be found at least in paragraph [0010]. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 1-6 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-6 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,255,819 to Peckels (the "Peckels patent"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 1, as amended herein, recites, "a dispenser for disposing a sample on a substrate comprising: a liquid discharge means for discharging liquid, said liquid comprising said sample, onto said substrate." The Peckels patent fails to disclose or suggest the recited dispenser.

The Peckels patent discloses the use of a dispenser head 12 attached to a beverage bottle 14 for filling glasses A-E with the beverage inside the bottle. See col. 7, lines 12-58. The claims of the present invention are directed to a dispenser for discharging liquid onto a substrate wherein the liquid comprises samples to be attached to the substrate.

The Peckels patent does not disclose or suggest such a dispenser for disposing a sample on a substrate that has a liquid discharge means for discharging liquid, said liquid comprising the sample, onto the substrate. Rather, as noted above the Peckels patent, describes a dispensing head for pouring a beverage into a glass. There is neither disclosure nor suggestion, nor motivation in the Peckels patent to have a dispenser for disposing a sample on a substrate with a liquid discharge means for discharging liquid, the liquid comprising the sample, onto the substrate. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In addition, claim 2 recites, "wherein said liquid discharge means is an inkjet head." The Peckels patent discloses four different types of head (12A, 12B, 12C, and 12D) four pouring beverages into a glass. Heads 12 may have an electronic dispensing timer, a stop pour annunciator, a magnetically latched dispensing control valve or an electronic bottle lock. See abstract. However, there is neither disclosure nor suggestion that head 12 has the structure of an inkjet head. In addition there is no motivation for head 12 to have the structure of an inkjet head. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

For at least the reasons noted above, claims 1 and 2 are patentable. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that claim 1, and claims 2-6 and 13 that depend therefrom, be allowed.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be

withdrawn. Applicant believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

John T. Haran

Attorney for Applicant Registration No. 58,010

Date: <u>April 18, 2007</u>

1100 New York Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20005-3934 (202) 371-2600 663950